

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present patent application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade with a shank and a blade element having a front surface and a rear surface, said hockey stick blade comprising:
 - (a) a core ~~of synthetic material~~ made of thermo-expandable foam ~~and~~ extending along a longitudinal axis;
 - (b) a ~~layer of fibers recovering fibers braid~~ at least partially wrapping over said core ~~of synthetic material~~; and
 - (c) a ~~layer sheet~~ of thermoplastic material ~~recovering covering~~ at least partially said ~~layer of fibers braid~~, said ~~layer sheet~~ of thermoplastic material forming part of one of said front and rear surfaces of said blade element.
2. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 1, wherein said core comprises a blade element portion and a shank portion with a tenon portion.
3. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 2, wherein said ~~layer of fibers braid~~ also ~~receives~~ wraps over said shank portion of said core.
4. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 3, wherein said ~~layer sheet~~ of thermoplastic material form part of said front and rear surfaces of said blade element.
5. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 4, wherein said shank comprises a front surface and a rear surface; and said ~~layer sheet~~ of thermoplastic material also ~~forming~~ forms part of one of said front and rear surfaces of said shank.

6. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 5 1, wherein said layer sheet of thermoplastic material comprises is a front thermoplastic sheet and said blade further comprises a rear thermoplastic sheet, said front and rear thermoplastic sheets forming part of said respective front and rear surfaces of said blade element and said shank.

7. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 6, wherein said sheets of thermoplastic material are made of thermoplastic material selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polyurethane, polypropylene, polyester, polystyrene, polyvinyl chloride and cellulose acetate.

8. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 7, wherein said core is made of thermo-expandable foam is selected from the group consisting of polyurethane foam, ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) foam, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) foam, ethylene polypropylene foam and polyisocyanurate foam.

9. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 8, wherein said core comprises a first portion located above a second portion;

10. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 9, wherein said layer sheet of fibers braid is comprises a first fibers braid covering said first portion and said blade further comprises a second fibers braid covering said second portion.

11. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 10, wherein said layer of fibers further comprises comprising a third fibers braid covering said second fibers braid.

12. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 11, wherein said layer of fibers further comprises comprising a fourth fibers braid covering said first and third fibers braids.

13. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 12, wherein said first, second, third and fourth fibers braids are made of woven fibers selected from the group consisting of carbon fibers, glass fibers, KEVLAR fibers, ceramic fibers, boron fibers, quartz fibers, spectra fibers, polyester fibers and polyethylene fibers.

14. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 13, wherein said first, second, third and fourth fibers braids are made of fibers crossing at between 30° and 60°.

15. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 14, wherein said blade comprises an interface between said first and second portions, said interface comprising fibers oriented transversely relative to the longitudinal axis of said core.

16. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 15, wherein said shank comprises a tenon adapted to be inserted into a hollow hockey stick shaft.

17. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 16, wherein one of said front and rear thermoplastic sheets comprises an indicia.

18. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade with a shank and a blade element having a front surface and a rear surface, said hockey stick blade comprising (a) a core of synthetic material made of thermo-expandable foam and extending along a longitudinal axis; and (b) a layer of fibers recovering fibers braid at least partially wrapping over said core of synthetic material, wherein one of said front and rear surfaces of said blade element comprises a layer sheet of thermoplastic material that recovers covering at least partially said layer of fibers braid.

19. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade with a shank and a blade element having a front surface and a rear surface, said hockey stick blade comprising (a) a core made of thermo-expandable foam and extending along a longitudinal axis; and (b) a fibers braid at least partially wrapping over said core, wherein said front and rear surfaces of said blade element comprises respective front and rear sheets of thermoplastic material covering at least partially

~~said fibers braid, as defined in claim 19, wherein said front surface of said blade element comprises a layer of thermoplastic material recovering at least partially said layer of fibers, said layer of thermoplastic material comprising a front thermoplastic sheet.~~

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 21 19, wherein said core comprises a blade element portion and a shank portion with a tenon portion and said ~~layer of fibers braid further recovers wraps over~~ shank portion of said core.

22. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 21, wherein said shank comprises a front surface and a rear surface, said front and rear thermoplastic sheets also forming part of said respective front and rear surfaces of said shank.

23. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 22, wherein said thermoplastic sheets are made of thermoplastic material selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polyurethane, polypropylene, polyester, polystyrene, polyvinyl chloride and cellulose acetate.

24. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 23, wherein said ~~core is made of~~ thermo-expandable foam is selected from the group consisting of polyurethane foam, ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) foam, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) foam, ethylene polypropylene foam and polyisocyanurate foam.

25. (Currently amended) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 24, wherein said ~~layer of fibers comprises a~~ fibers braid comprises and epoxy.

26. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 25, wherein said fibers braid is made of woven fibers selected from the group consisting of carbon fibers, glass

fibers, KEVLAR fibers, ceramic fibers, boron fibers, quartz fibers, spectra fibers, polyester fibers and polyethylene fibers.

27. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 26, wherein said fibers braid is made of fibers crossing at between 30° and 60°.

28. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 27, wherein said shank comprises a tenon adapted to be inserted into a hollow hockey stick shaft.

29. (Previously presented) A hockey stick blade as defined in claim 28, wherein one of said front and rear thermoplastic sheets comprises an indicia.